



# Weekly Coal Production

Production for Week Ended:  
October 3, 1992



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**Heating fuel data**, updated the 2nd week of the month.

**Oxygenates data**, updated approximately the 25th of the month.

**Weekly Petroleum Status Report**, updated on Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m.

**Petroleum Supply Monthly**, updated on the 20th of the month.

**Petroleum Marketing Monthly**, updated on the 20th of the month.

**Natural Gas Monthly**, updated on the 20th of the month.

**Weekly Coal Production**, updated on Fridays at 5:00 p.m.

**Quarterly Coal Report**, updated 60 days after the end of the quarter.

**Electric Power Monthly**, updated on the 1st of the month.

**Monthly Energy Review**, updated the last week of the month.

**Short-Term Energy Outlook**, updated 60 days after the end of the quarter.

**Winter Fuels Report** (October through April), updated on Thursdays at 5:00 p.m.

### Contacts

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## Summary

U.S. coal production in the week ended October 3, 1992, as estimated from railroad car loadings by the Energy Information Administration, totaled 19 million short tons. This was slightly lower than in the previous week and in the comparable week in 1991.

Production east of the Mississippi River totaled 11 million short tons, and production west of the Mississippi River totaled 8 million short tons.

Figure 1. Coal Production

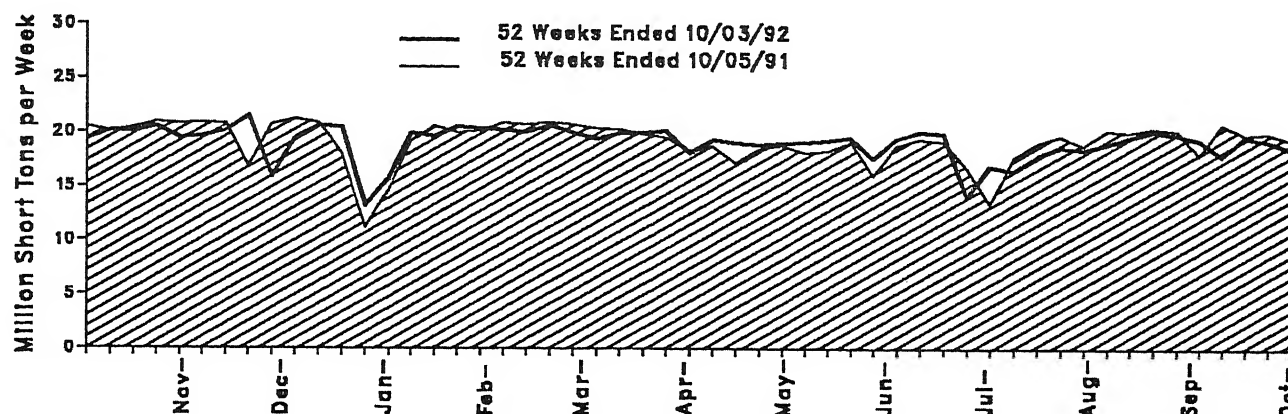


Table 1. Weekly U.S. Coal Production Overview

Production and Carloadings	Week Ended			52 Weeks Ended		
	10/03/92	09/26/92	10/05/91	10/03/92	10/05/91	Percent Change
<b>Production (Thousand Short Tons)</b>						
Bituminous Coal <sup>1</sup> and Lignite .....	18,470	19,197	19,239	988,373	991,073	-0.3
Pennsylvania Anthracite .....	41	43	80	3,113	3,306	-5.8
U.S. Total .....	18,511	19,241	19,318	991,486	994,379	-.3
Railroad Cars Loaded .....	121,985	126,984	127,570	6,364,834	6,502,555	-2.1

<sup>1</sup> Includes subbituminous coal.

Notes: 1992 data are preliminary. Total may not equal sum of components because of independent rounding.

Sources: Association of American Railroads, Transportation Division, Weekly Statement CS-54A; Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-6, "Coal Distribution Report"; Form EIA-7A, "Coal Production Report"; and State mining agency coal production reports.

**Table 2. Weekly U.S. Coal Production by Region and State**  
(Thousand Short Tons)

Region and State	Week Ended		
	10/03/92	09/26/92	10/05/91
<b>Bituminous Coal<sup>1</sup> and Lignite</b>			
East of the Mississippi .....	10,921	11,389	11,840
Alabama .....	551	601	490
Illinois .....	1,089	1,095	1,173
Indiana .....	497	511	691
Kentucky .....	2,941	3,018	3,228
Kentucky, Eastern .....	2,118	2,253	2,486
Kentucky, Western .....	823	765	742
Maryland .....	66	70	78
Ohio .....	497	530	640
Pennsylvania Bituminous .....	1,144	1,167	1,430
Tennessee .....	90	97	77
Virginia .....	835	892	814
West Virginia .....	3,210	3,410	3,220
West of the Mississippi .....	7,549	7,808	7,398
Alaska .....	26	27	35
Arizona .....	214	223	262
Arkansas .....	2	2	1
Colorado .....	383	433	219
Iowa .....	6	6	6
Kansas .....	8	8	7
Louisiana .....	86	66	79
Missouri .....	41	43	48
Montana .....	654	688	744
New Mexico .....	548	597	464
North Dakota .....	495	520	568
Oklahoma .....	19	19	31
Texas .....	1,095	1,139	1,013
Utah .....	428	463	292
Washington .....	81	85	110
Wyoming .....	3,462	3,491	3,522
Bituminous Coal <sup>1</sup> and Lignite Total .....	18,470	19,197	19,239
Pennsylvania Anthracite .....	41	43	80
U.S. Total .....	18,511	19,241	19,318

<sup>1</sup> Includes subbituminous coal.

Notes: 1992 data are preliminary. Total may not equal sum of components because of independent rounding.

Sources: Association of American Railroads, Transportation Division, Weekly Statement CS-54A; Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-6, "Coal Distribution Report"; Form EIA-7A, "Coal Production Report"; and State mining agency coal production reports.

**Table 3. U.S. Coal Production by Region and State, September 1992**  
(Thousand Short Tons)

Region and State	September 1992	August 1992	September 1991	Year to Date		
				1992	1991	Percent Change
Bituminous Coal <sup>1</sup> and Lignite						
East of the Mississippi .....	48,317	48,631	49,125	442,759	439,749	0.7
Alabama .....	2,502	2,524	2,169	20,491	20,604	-.5
Illinois .....	4,787	4,814	5,143	44,851	45,040	-.4
Indiana .....	2,184	2,233	2,643	23,955	23,367	2.5
Kentucky .....	13,055	13,131	13,290	119,045	118,320	.6
Kentucky, Eastern .....	9,368	9,283	9,836	86,781	86,748	.0
Kentucky, Western .....	3,686	3,847	3,454	32,264	31,572	2.2
Maryland .....	290	291	338	2,730	2,754	-.9
Ohio .....	2,229	2,302	2,443	21,819	23,280	-6.3
Pennsylvania Bituminous .....	4,952	5,229	5,529	48,148	46,501	3.5
Tennessee .....	404	388	337	2,544	3,439	-26.0
Virginia .....	3,732	3,581	3,512	33,496	31,887	5.0
West Virginia .....	14,182	14,138	13,722	125,678	124,557	.9
West of the Mississippi .....	34,220	34,697	32,531	301,264	300,953	.1
Alaska .....	114	115	97	1,109	974	13.9
Arizona .....	957	967	1,022	9,231	9,725	-5.1
Arkansas .....	8	8	4	35	42	-17.7
California .....	0	-	-	30	-	.0
Colorado .....	1,626	1,597	1,297	13,643	13,398	1.8
Iowa .....	27	28	29	232	262	-11.5
Kansas .....	37	35	27	282	335	-15.9
Louisiana .....	311	296	296	2,367	2,228	6.3
Missouri .....	184	186	214	1,991	1,697	17.3
Montana .....	3,091	3,205	3,072	27,335	28,070	-2.6
New Mexico .....	2,481	2,147	1,712	18,157	15,611	16.3
North Dakota .....	2,339	2,425	2,223	22,782	21,774	4.6
Oklahoma .....	171	217	164	1,577	1,352	16.6
Texas .....	4,896	4,945	4,976	40,881	40,771	.3
Utah .....	1,833	1,792	1,684	16,400	16,326	.5
Washington .....	364	367	467	3,762	3,731	.8
Wyoming .....	15,781	16,368	15,245	141,450	144,657	-2.2
Bituminous Coal <sup>1</sup> and Lignite Total .....	82,536	83,329	81,656	744,023	740,702	.4
Pennsylvania Anthracite .....	183	199	309	2,203	2,487	-11.4
U.S. Total .....	82,720	83,528	81,966	746,226	743,190	.4

<sup>1</sup> Includes subbituminous coal.

Notes: 1992 data are preliminary. Total may not equal sum of components because of independent rounding.

Sources: Association of American Railroads, Transportation Division, Weekly Statement CS-54A; Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-6, "Coal Distribution Report"; Form EIA-7A, "Coal Production Report"; and State mining agency coal production reports.

# Methodology

## Weekly Data

Estimates of national weekly coal production are based on weekly carload data collected by the Association of American Railroads (AAR) from its members (Class I Railroads) and certain other railroads. EIA calculates the average number of tons per carload for each railroad's coal car fleet from information obtained from the most recent Quarterly Freight Commodity Statistics filed by Class I Railroads with the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) and from data made available by individual railroads. The average number of tons per carload is then multiplied by the number of cars loaded to obtain an estimate of weekly production shipped by AAR railroads.

Next, the weekly coal production estimate for a specific week is obtained by dividing the AAR rail tonnage for the week by a factor representing the proportion of quarterly AAR rail shipments to total quarterly coal production. Because this is done on a weekly basis, and prior to completion of current quarterly statistics, the factor is derived using ICC data on tons per carload and total carloadings and from EIA data on total production for the same quarter of the previous year. Figures for the same quarter of the year are used in order to reflect seasonal variation. In some cases, the ratio of rail tonnage to total production is adjusted to take additional, more current information into consideration, such as rail or coal strikes.

Once the U.S. weekly coal production estimate is determined, this total is split into two subtotals - the portion representing States, with little or no rail coal shipments, and the portion representing the remaining States, where a significant percentage of production is shipped by rail. The States with little or no railroad coal shipments are Alaska, Arizona, California, Georgia (when producing), Iowa, Louisiana, Missouri, Texas, and Washington. With the exception of California and Louisiana, the weekly production data for each "nonrail" State are developed by multiplying the estimate of U.S. weekly coal production by the ratio of projected production, for each State to U.S. total projected production, for the current quarter. The methodology used to project State coal production is given in the EIA publication *Model Documentation of the Short-Term Coal Analysis System* (DOE/EIA-0394). The EIA contacts the two producers in Louisiana and

the sole producer in California to develop weekly coal production estimates for those States.

Estimates for the remaining States are in aggregate equal to the U.S. weekly coal production minus the estimated production from the nonrail States. Estimates for "rail States" are based on the AAR carload data compiled by State of origin, including separate estimates for the anthracite and bituminous coal regions in Pennsylvania, eastern and western Kentucky and northern and southern West Virginia.

Each railroad is contacted at least annually for information concerning the distribution (by state of origin) of its railroad carloadings of coal. These distribution percentages are multiplied by the railroad's weekly loadings and ICC derived tonnage per carload figures to derive the weekly tonnages loaded by State and by railroad. The tonnages loaded by the various railroads are then summed by each State to estimate total production shipped by AAR rail for that State. These tonnages are divided by the most recent ratio of annual AAR rail tonnage to total annual production for each State. The resulting weekly coal production estimates for the rail States are then adjusted to ensure that each State's production figure contributes proportionately to the weekly coal production estimate previously derived in aggregate for the rail States.

## Monthly Data

Preliminary estimates of monthly coal production by State are obtained by summing weekly coal production estimates published in the *Weekly Coal Production* report. If a week extends into a new month, the production is allocated by day, and the days are added to the month in which they occur. For weeks without holidays, the allocation is Monday through Friday, 18.4 percent each day; Saturday, 8 percent; and Sunday, 0 percent. For weeks with a holiday occurring on a day other than Sunday, the allocation is Sunday and the holiday, 0 percent; and any other day, 20 percent.

Preliminary weekly and monthly production estimates are revised quarterly when quarterly production data, become available. Preliminary weekly and monthly estimates are proportionately adjusted to conform to the quarterly production figure.

## Quarterly Data

Estimates of quarterly coal production are based on data collected quarterly on Form EIA-6, with certain adjustments. The national estimate of quarterly coal production is set equal to the quarterly U.S. coal production total as reported on the Form EIA-6. Based on 1988 through 1991 data, the coal production estimation error for a quarter at the national level (i.e., the difference between the sum of the weekly estimates for a quarter and the quarterly EIA-6 preliminary data) ranges from 1 percent to 4 percent for 1988, 1 percent to 2 percent for 1989, 0.3 percent to 3 percent for 1990, and 0.2 percent to 2 percent for 1991.

The quarterly production data, although published throughout the year, are considered preliminary until EIA annual production data are finalized in September of the following year. At that time quarterly production data are revised (proportionately adjusted) to conform to the final annual production figures.

## Finalizing Annual Production

Preliminary total annual U.S. coal production, as reported in the *Weekly Coal Production* report in the first week in January of the following year, is the sum

of revised monthly/quarterly estimates of production for the first 9 months (first three quarters) and a preliminary estimate of fourth quarter production derived from weekly estimates.

When production data for the fourth quarter of the year become available from Form EIA-6 in March of the following year, the preliminary fourth-quarter U.S. total production figure and corresponding State-level figures may or may not be revised, depending on the size of the difference between the estimates and fourth-quarter data. As a general practice, EIA does not revise the initial annual production estimates (determined initially in January of the following year). Weekly, monthly, and quarterly State and national production data are adjusted to conform to finalized annual production figures derived from Form EIA-7A, in September of the following year.

Based on 1988 through 1990 data, the revision error for a quarter at the national level (i.e., the difference between the EIA-6 preliminary data and the EIA-7A final data) ranges from 0.02 percent to 0.08 percent for 1988, 0.09 percent to 0.14 percent for 1989, and 0.01 percent to 0.05 percent for 1990. Usually the EIA-7A coal production data are higher than the EIA-6 coal production data, due to differences in the threshold reporting requirements.